

⊖ B19 Route  
⊕ B45-46 Route

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by ~~June 29~~ July 25, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend?

None, Received information from neighbor who attended meeting

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

☒ Project Purpose and Need

Visual / Aesthetic resources

Proximity to residences

Use (agriculture, residential, recreation)

Wetlands (floodplains, river crossings)

Resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)

Historic and cultural sites

Radio or television interference

☐ Noise

☒ Health and safety

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

(as above)

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

**I-238-001**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☐ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I live at 3700 Dawnhorn Ct NE, parallel to the  
of B119 proposed line. This line would effectively  
split through my parents' family farm land.  
They farmed this 100 acres on either side  
of the B119 proposed line from 1956 - 2  
The beauty of this farm land would be  
significantly compromised by the poles - we  
project. My view of my parents' home  
be obstructed by this project, as well.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational) in the Project area and why?

The proposed B119 project would affect the  
wildlife that grazes the farmland - The deer,  
wild turkeys, pheasants, geese & grouse  
enjoy this land of abundant food & shelter.  
Cattle, though, creating this line will  
create disruption of their natural habitat.  
Our neighborhood is a very desirable  
living environment for all of us in part  
because of the quiet surroundings - The  
B119 line would be significantly disruptive  
to an serene neighborhood with the  
accompanying noise level.

I-238-001

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

Yes, however it does not make sense  
to me to use the alternative B119  
line which is longer & would cut  
through a number of properties rather  
than using the B45-46 line project.  
We do not need more disruption  
of what little un-developed farmland  
we have remaining in NE Rochester.

Historic and

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Katie Zahasky  
Representing (Optional):  
Mailing Address: 3700 Dawnhaven Ct NE  
City: Rochester State: MN Zip Code: 55906  
Daytime Phone (Optional): 507-289-9365

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

Gary Peters  
Annette Peters  
2779 450<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kenyon, MN 55946

July 3, 2009

RE: CapX 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is being sent to you because we are concerned about the proposed CapX 2020 project that may be coming through Minnesota. Our property is in the area for the Hampton-Rochester-Lacrosse 345 KV Transmission Project. Our home is located in Section 28 of Holden Township in Goodhue County, Minnesota. Our property is residential and sits on approximately 3.50 acres. We live in a rural agricultural community. Our home is surrounded by farm fields a small woods that is home to deer, wild turkeys and a wide variety of other wildlife.

The various power companies involved in this project have been providing data showing the increased demand for power through 2004 and thus the need for this project. However, the data for the years after 2004 show that there is an actual decrease in usage. Our hope is that all alternatives to this massive project have been studied and fairly evaluated. This project will stretch from the Dakotas through Minnesota and Wisconsin. The transmission lines are said to lose 30% of the power they are carrying. They propose to use coal. We seem to be making strides in conservation and in using renewable resources to produce energy. Is a project of this magnitude really the best solution?

As we stated before, ours is an agricultural community and our township and county are dedicated to keeping our family farms and our agricultural base. The acres of land that will be taken for right of ways if this project is approved is astounding. There are also small woods and stands of trees that will suffer if these huge lines are allowed to come through our state. Transmission lines will mar the beauty of the area, drive down property values, cause potential health threats, and cause various problems that farms will need to "work around" for years to come. Becoming a corridor for transmission lines (for which we see no direct benefit) is not something we or anyone else I know wants. I was told that height of the poles for these lines will be approximately the height of the Statue of Liberty!

The proposed route though our township appears to be very close to many homes. We know that these power lines can be harmful to both people and

#### I-239-001

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

#### I-239-002

Your comment has been noted. Socioeconomic impacts to property values affected by the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-239-001  
I-239-004

I-239-005  
I-239-002  
I-239-006

I-239-007  
I-239-008

wildlife but still do not know the full effect of long term exposure. We know it interferes with various electrical and GPS systems, etc. We were informed at one meeting we attended that farmers may need to ground their machinery when working around these lines. We also understand that it can interfere with radio and television transmission.

I-239-009  
I-239-010

I have read many of the comments submitted by others regarding this project and I have heard many others speak at previous meetings. The reasons for not wanting these lines in our area are the same reasons others do not want them in their areas; including the effect on our property values. We don't want the view from our homes to be massive transmission lines. There is no compensation for those living near the lines and no amount of money would suffice for the loss we would incur in so many ways.

I-239-003

We hope that another solution can be found so none of us will have to have these huge transmission lines near our homes. However, we know that the power companies involved as well state and local governments will prosper from this project and fear that it will be approved. If this project is approved we hope that the least invasive route would be used. We appreciate attempts to stay away from homes when possible, but these lines will still be very close to many homes. Also, is taking this valuable rural land really the best answer? If the project goes forward we feel that the most logical route is not through Holden Township and Highway 56 or Highway 60. The other route goes along Highway 52. Homes in this area would be further from the line. It would also seem to be a shorter and thus less expensive route to use. This route is also more industrial and commercial than the route along Highways 56 and 60.

Sincerely,

Gary & Annette Peters

*Gary Peters* *Annette Peters*

### I-239-003

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

### I-239-004

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### I-239-005

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### I-239-006

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### I-239-007

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

### I-239-008

Your comment has been noted. Interference with electrical equipment caused by the transmission lines will be addressed with individual landowners if the problem arises.

**I-239-009**

Your comment has been noted. Socioeconomic impacts to property values affected by the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**I-239-010**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**I-239-011**

Your comment has been noted. RUS anticipates that the CapX2020 Utilities would pay for land rights based on an independent appraisal and will work with property owners to negotiate easement payments after the permitting process.

Potential impacts to social and economic resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by ~~June 29~~ <sup>June 23</sup>, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☐ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-240-003 | The need for things like this?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☒ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

Crystal Valley Rd. Gale, WI Acres of  
trees would be lost. wildlife loss.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-240-002

Aesthetic is the most sensitive resource

I-240-001

A massive new line would be ridiculous eye  
sore. Do nothing. It worse place new/Bigger  
and more lines on existing poles.

#### I-240-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

#### I-240-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### I-240-003

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-240-004

NO. The need for the new High Voltage Power is not explained. Power usage is decreasing!

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Michael Batzler

Representing (Optional):

Mailing Address: 1898 Conestoga Ct

City: Richfield State: WI Zip Code: 53076

Daytime Phone (Optional):

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-240-004

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? None

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☐ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-241-002 my concern includes wild life, noise level, if any,  
I-241-001 over safety, why not use non-farm land, if  
available.

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### I-241-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

### I-241-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts from noise and to wildlife and human health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:**

☒ Agriculture      ☒ Residential      ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial      ☐ Industrial      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.**

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**In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?**

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I-241-003

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

We are possibly having wind towers on our land. Would the wind towers and the transmission be able to work together?

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: JoAnn Dubbels

Representing (Optional):

Mailing Address: 5831 51st St NE

City: Rochester

State: MN

Zip Code: 55906

Daytime Phone (Optional): 507-282-2991

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-241-003

Your letter/comment card has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Cap & 2020 Galesville in June, 2008 meetings by  
LaCrosse Clean Energy Coalition, local concerned citizen meetings in Galesville, WI

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☒ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety

I-242-001 ☒ Other: Decentralization of energy production

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-242-002 Increased thrust for long-term sustainability with use of  
diversified renewable energies.

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### I-242-001

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

### I-242-002

Your comment has been noted. Please refer to comment response I-242-001.

I-242-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to social and economic resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☐ Agriculture      ☐ Residential      ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial      ☐ Industrial      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

*At present I don't believe I'm under a corridor.  
However I continuously hear of changes in the routing.*

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

*I do not appreciate forcing the bill for energy  
lines which will not directly service me. Instead there  
ought to be continual compensation for the environmental,  
agricultural, biological, and recreational damage and  
destruction paid by the receivers of the energy to those  
within this proposed corridor, at least. Another words no  
rate hike to us.*

I-242-003

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-242-004 No. In fact, it's unclear to this day where the lines  
I-242-005 are actually going to be installed, or whether wind energy  
will be accessed with this project. I've also been told  
it's a "done deal" with permission from Wisconsin to move  
I-242-006 forward with this project. If that's so what's the purpose  
of this comment form? I want accurate detailed  
information on the final corridor choice and an  
opportunity for public input on it. Or is it the strategy of  
the organizers to divide the public, so they can conquer, so to  
speak?

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Lois Taylor, MA RN  
Representing (Optional): Quantum Living - E.N. consultant  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 213  
City: Trempealeau State: WI Zip Code: 54661-0213  
Daytime Phone (Optional): (608) 5345008

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-242-004

The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities are striving to provide the most up to date information in a timely manner. Project information is updated regularly on the project website, [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com).

Your letter/comment card has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line. Due to the transmission grid's interconnected nature as well as to electricity's nature - it's generally difficult to identify a specific source of electricity on the grid.

The proposed CapX2020 transmission lines will serve the region's expected growth and help begin to meet Minnesota's Renewable Energy Standard (RES), which requires utilities to deliver 25 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2025 (Xcel Energy is mandated to deliver 30 percent by 2020, with 25 percent from wind). Most of that energy comes from wind turbines.

I-242-005

The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities are striving to provide the most up to date information in a timely manner. Project information is updated regularly on the project website, [www.capx2020.com](http://www.capx2020.com).

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-242-006

Your comment has been noted. Please refer to comment response I-242-005.

4372 Cass Court  
Webster, MN 55088  
July 22, 2009

Mr. Scott Ek  
Office of Energy Security and Energy Facility Planning  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Ek:

As a resident of Sky Harbor Airpark, I am writing to officially object to the proposed reroute or use of the alternate route published recently for the CapX2020 project. I understand the reroute of the CAPX2020 Brooking to Hampton line may bring the 200 foot towers within ½ mile of the Sky Harbor Airpark (IMN8) located in Webster, Minnesota.

The proposed alternate route places these towers DIRECTLY INTO THE PUBLISHED AIRPORT TRAFFIC PATTERN of the state's largest residential airpark. With over 70 registered aircraft using the field, this is a significant and unacceptable risk to safe navigation that could result in loss of lives.

Sky Harbor Airpark has also been used numerous times for emergency medical helicopter operations. These operations may occur during times of adverse weather making the towers an even greater danger. We also have, on occasion, had gliders from Stanton Airport use this facility when the gliders were not able to return to their home airport. Gliders by nature have very low angles of approach to landing, and these towers would pose a very real threat to their maneuvers.

The FAA and Minnesota Department of Aeronautics have numerous regulations on record regarding the construction of tall towers near airports. I would like to stress the importance of compliance with these regulations.

Sincerely,

  
Hartland W. Deering, Jr.

C: Ms. Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA Rural Utilities Service  
1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

#### I-243-001

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

4372 Cass Court  
Webster, MN 55088  
July 22, 2009

Mr. Scott Ek  
Office of Energy Security and Energy Facility Planning  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Dear Mr. Ek:

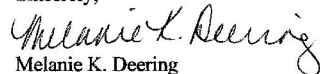
As a resident of Sky Harbor Airpark, I am writing to officially object to the proposed reroute or use of the alternate route published recently for the CapX2020 project. I understand the reroute of the CAPX2020 Brookings to Hampton line may bring the 200 foot towers within ½ mile of the Sky Harbor Airpark (1MN8) located in Webster, Minnesota.

The proposed alternate route places these towers DIRECTLY INTO THE PUBLISHED AIRPORT TRAFFIC PATTERN of the state's largest residential airpark. With over 70 registered aircraft using the field, this is a significant and unacceptable risk to safe navigation that could result in loss of lives.

Sky Harbor Airpark has also been used numerous times for emergency medical helicopter operations. These operations may occur during times of adverse weather making the towers an even greater danger. We also have, on occasion, had gliders from Stanton Airport use this facility when the gliders were not able to return to their home airport. Gliders by nature have very low angles of approach to landing, and these towers would pose a very real threat to their maneuvers.

The FAA and Minnesota Department of Aeronautics have numerous regulations on record regarding the construction of tall towers near airports. I would like to stress the importance of compliance with these regulations.

Sincerely,

  
Melanie K. Deering

C: ✓ Ms. Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA Rural Utilities Service  
1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mail Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

#### I-244-001

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

personal care from lawyers who care

July 20, 2009

Ms. Stephanie A. Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA Rural Utilities Service  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Mail Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571



Attorneys

Mark W. Delehanty  
JoMarie L. Morris\*  
Carole A. Pasternak  
Shareholders

Anne M. Dennison\*\*  
Associate

Michael D. Klampe  
[1947-2001]

Re: CapX 2020  
Hampton-Rochester-LaCrosse Route Options  
Affected Kroening properties in Olmsted County:  
R73.11.23.1033364; R73.10.42.033357; R73.11.33.033366; and R73.14.22.03387

Dear Ms. Strength:

Recently I wrote you regarding my client, Dr. David Lowe. I have now also been retained to represent his neighboring property owner, Randy Kroening. Mr. Kroening's home is also threatened by the east-most proposed route options for the 161 kV transmission line running from the southeast Rochester/Chester substation northwest. A CapX 2020 map and plat book page are enclosed here showing the Kroening homestead.

Mr. Kroening owns and farms over 300 acres in four adjoining parcels sections 11, 12 and 14 in Haverhill Township, Olmsted County, Minnesota. The eastern-most of the two transmission line route options is proposed to occupy one and one-quarter miles of the Kroening property (all of the west boundary of section 11, and the west boundary of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 14).

The proposed line would be unsightly and an obstacle and intrusion on his farming operation. It would cross through and over a century-old grove of oak and other hardwoods adjacent to his home. Mr. Kroening has lived in this family farm home all his life, and the homestead is the center of his farming operation. It is a beautiful, rural setting that would be despoiled by a high power line, and the necessary long-term maintenance required to keep the right-of-way clear of mature trees.

**I-245-001** More significantly, the proposed line is sited to pass within one hundred feet or so of his home. If the transmission line is truly over 150 feet tall, then the line as proposed would be closer to his

LAW OFFICES OF **KLAMPE, DELEHANTY & MORRIS, LLC**

Broadstreet Building | 300 First Avenue NW | Rochester, MN 55901 | 507 288 2447 | fax 507 288 4412 | 800 972 2447 | www.klampelawfirm.com

\*Also licensed in Wisconsin

\*\*Also licensed in Iowa

## I-245-001

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to land use will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments will be solicited after its publication.

Stephanie Strength  
July 20, 2009  
Page 2

home than the height of the line. His home would be within the necessary setback zone. This poses an unacceptable safety risk.

I-245-002

Mr. Kroening wants it to be clearly understood that he will not willingly accept any power line easement or intrusion onto his property, and will take all available legal steps to protect and keep his home. Clearly the other, west-most alternative route for this power line is the better option. It has an existing People's Coop Power right-of-way, is shorter and straighter, and poses less threat to existing homes.

Respectfully submitted,

KLAMPE, DELEHANTY & MORRIS, LLC



Mark W. Delehanty

MWD/jc  
Enclosures

Cc: Randy Kroening  
CapX 2020, attn: Jim Alders, 414 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401  
People's Cooperative Power  
Dairyland Power Cooperative

Misc/kroening/strengthlr

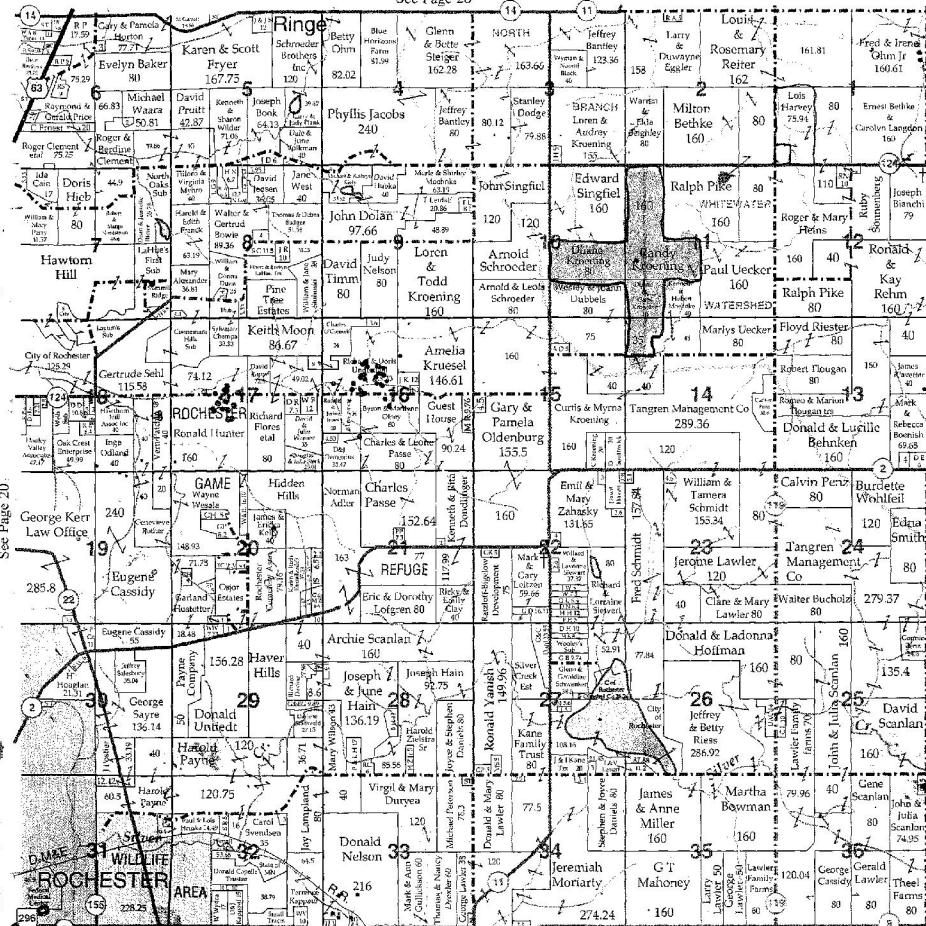
## I-245-002

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

# HAVERHILL TOWNSHIP

T.107N. - R.13W.

See Page 26



See Page 16



**ROOT RIVER**  
*State Bank*

Established 1836 • The Oldest State Chartered Bank in Minnesota

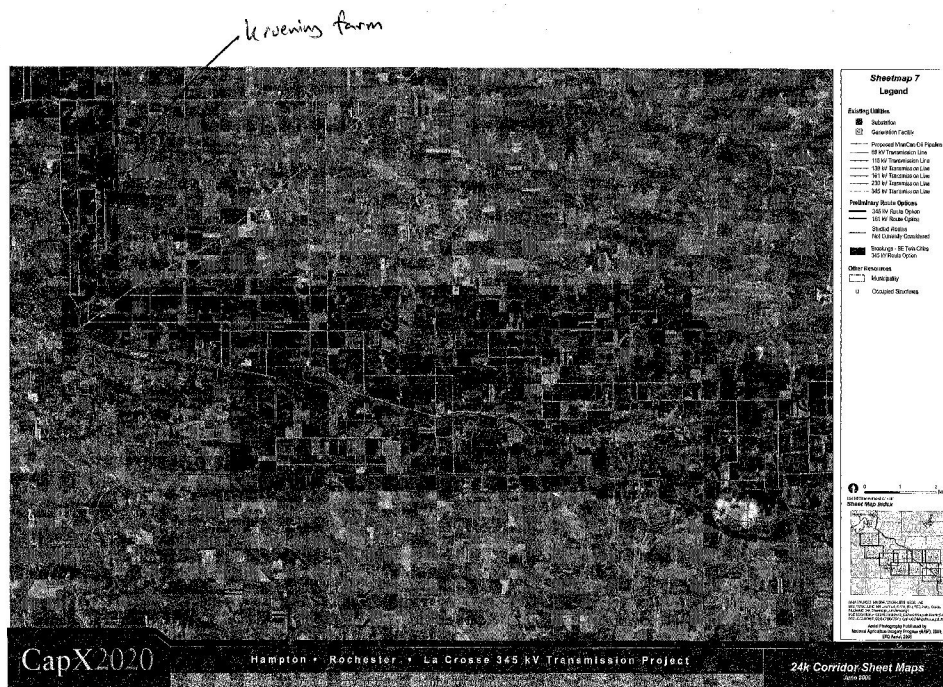
CHATFIELD, MINNESOTA 55923

(507) 867-4120

FAX (507) 867-3940

Your Community Bank with Strong Reserves  
Largest in the Root River Valley





## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? JUNE 25, 2009 COCHRANE-FOUNTAIN CITY  
HIGH SCHOOL

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

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Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

**I-246-001**

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☒ Agriculture      ☒ Residential      ☐ Conservation Easement  
☒ Commercial      ☒ Industrial      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

GREAT RIVER ROAD NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY  
THERE IS EXISTING RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS  
NORTH, SOUTH, EAST & WEST OF THE PROPOSED  
LINE C10 - C11. THIS LINE SPLITS OUR FARM  
LAND WHICH IS ALSO POTENTIAL PREFERENCE FOR  
BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LAND.

PROPERTY LOCATION: T20N R12W SECTION 25 E36

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

STATE HIGHWAY 35, TOURIST ATTRACTIONS  
THE GREAT RIVER ROAD, THE PRIME BUILDING  
PROPERTY FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL  
AREAS FROM FOUNTAIN CITY NORTH TO ALMA WIS.  
WILL HELP TO GENERATE FUTURE TAX DOLLARS TO HELP  
SUPPORT OUR COUNTY GOVERNMENT ~~AND~~, SCHOOLS  
ETC. TO BRING A HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION  
LINE THROUGH THIS AREA WOULD NOT BE GOOD IN  
MY OPINION.

I-246-001

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

YES it was adequate!

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: LESLIE J. HANEY & LORRAINE H. HANEY

Representing (Optional):

Mailing Address: 52966 ST. HWY 35

City: Fountain City, State: Wisconsin Zip Code: 54629

Daytime Phone (Optional): 608-687-3741 (HOME)

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

# CapX2020 COMMENT FORM

Delivering electricity you can rely on  
Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Unable

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☐ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

We own land on an alternate route - Proposal is to build a second line next to present line - Replacing the present line with a double line would be more acceptable

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345kV Transmission Project

## I-247-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-247-001

# CapX2020

Delivering electricity you can rely on

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☒ Agriculture ☐ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

*Our farmland is zoned agriculture ag II. A second time has the following problems.*  
*1- additional obstacles to farm around. Requires more time to farm around, more overlaps and constant fear of hitting poles and potential repair time + cost.*  
*2- Greater restriction to aerial applications of chemicals, which is becoming more common.*  
*3- Potential subtraction on farmland zoned to remain farmland.*

*Property in Town of Gale Sec. 36 T19N R8W*

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

*Prime farmland - because it's my livelihood.*

I-247-002

I-247-003

I-247-004

## I-247-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to agricultural resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

## I-247-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts resulting from construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line will be addressed in resource sections throughout the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

## I-247-004

Your letter/comment card has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line. Potential impacts to agricultural resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which will be available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

*I did not attend but did read the material.*

I-247-005

*My question was why put a second line beside the present instead of replacing with one new line - I didn't see any good explanation of that.*

I-247-006

*Another question is why isn't Interstate highway right-of-way used for ~~transmission lines~~ transmission lines?*

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: *Ken Congdon*  
 Representing (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: *W16618 St. Rd 54*  
 City: *Salesville* State: *WI* Zip Code: *54630*  
 Daytime Phone (Optional): *608-582-4476*

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-247-005

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-247-006

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

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**Please tell us how to reach you.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Jonathan Kroening

**Representing (Optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** 5595 Viola Rd NE

State: MN

State: MN Zip Code: 55906

**Daytime Phone (Optional):** \_\_\_\_\_

*Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton- Rochester- La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.*

*Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.*



If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☐ Agriculture      ☒ Residential      ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial      ☐ Industrial      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

*Our house is located in the Haverhill township Section 15  
Olmsted County Rochester MN 55906*

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

*We don't want the B119 proposed site going through our yard. If a new line needs to be ran why isn't the B415 site being utilized.*

#### I-248-001

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-248-001

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

*Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.*

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

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Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☒ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Northfield - Wauamingo - St Charles

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety

I-249-006 ☒ Other: Geologic Impact on the land in Holden Township

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

I-249-007 This is a fragile area with a large limestone cavern  
A governmental study was taken in Holden Township, Wheeling  
Township and Richland Township in 1986. - A witness post sign can  
be found on 210th Wheeling Township verifying the study - mineral  
rights were purchased from some land owners  
The project was abandon when the large cavern was  
found to have large limestone faults.  
During the governmental study family water wells were destroyed  
when the limestone faults shifted.

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

**If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:**

☒ Agriculture

☒ Residential

☐ Conservation Easement

☐ Commercial

☐ Industrial

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.**

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**In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?**

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[illegible]

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Representing (Optional): ~~4/4~~

City: KENYON State: MN 55946 Zip Code:

*Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton- Rochester- La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.*

July 22, 2009

Stephanie A. Strength  
1400 Independence Ave, SW, Mail Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

**I QUESTION THE NEED FOR CAP X 2020**

CAP X 2020 Would carry coal generated electricity, hundreds of miles with a 20% compounded loss to an area that is producing electricity from wind projects and proposing new wind projects to be built.

Coal is considered to be an environmentally unsatisfactory energy source because of gaseous and solid waste products.

Minnesota Power and Xcel Energy which generates the majority of its electricity from coal (which spews global warming gases into the atmosphere) could easily be a big loser if a strong climate-change bill passes in Washington. A strong climate-change law could dramatically decrease the value of hundreds of millions of dollars of Minnesota Power's and Xcel Energy's investment in coal-burning infrastructure.

Minnesota Power now reports that money invested in wind power produces cheaper electricity than money invested in coal power and money invested in energy-efficient buildings is more than paid for by energy savings.

**PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED:**

Why do we need additional transmission lines?

**EXEL'S** has had a shrinking demand for electricity from the year 2006

**DAIRYLAND POWER'S** representative stated "there is already too much electricity being produced by the new wind projects in Southern Minnesota and they need to move it to other locations. We can't use it all."

—These new wind projects can supply additional electricity to Rochester, MN and La Crosse, Wis.

**WHY THE NEW LINE?**

**I-249-001**

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-249-001

**GEOLOGIC IMPACT:** Holden Township --a proposed line route -- is a fragile area with a large underground limestone cavern.

A governmental study was taken in Holden Township, Wheeling Township and Richland Township Minnesota in 1986. — A witness post sign can be found on 210<sup>th</sup> Street East, Wheeling Township verifying the study — The study was to determine how big the cavern was, if it contained natural gas, and if the limestone was solid or fractured. The study - project was abandon when the large cavern was found to have large limestone faults. During the governmental study family water wells were destroyed when the limestone faults shifted. Heavy equipment and earth pounding was used during the study. Mineral Rights were purchased from some land owners.

I-249-008 **VISUAL/AESTHETIC RESOURCES:** we have a rolling country farming community and the large poles would ruin the view, disrupting and destroying our rural landscape. A swath 150' wide running hundreds of miles across the state will remove woodland habitat and farmland from our State's precious natural resources.

I-249-009 **PROXIMITY TO RESIDENCES:** No people should have a line build on their homestead, for their health and safety. Electric and Magnetic fields still have unknown effects on all living creatures.

I-249-003 **LAND USE AGRICULTURE:** I have worked for thirty years to build my farmland. I have installed tile, build terraces, with the goal to stop erosion and run off. Farmland is not a renewable resource we need to protect every field, every acre. Holden township and Goodhue County are both dedicated to keep our family farms and our agricultural base. We do not want the transmission lines, as those proposed by the Cap X2020 project. The proposed lines run directly down the middle of the section, resulting in a greater disruption of the farming acreage.

I-249-004 Transmission lines will mar the beauty of the area and drive down property values, and cause problems for farmers.

I-249-010 **WATER RESOURCES:** Most of the family water wells are shallow and will be disturbed with the digging of large holes and limestone fracturing,

#### **I-249-002**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife and vegetation will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-249-003**

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:  
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

#### **I-249-004**

Your comment has been noted. Socioeconomic impacts to property values affected by the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: RAPTORES:** Hawks nest in my woods on my farm, in Holden township. They thrill everyone who hears their call or sees them fly. They are majestic and should not be disturbed.

**I-249-005** | **TELEVISION INTERFERENCE:** The large poles will interrupt the poor television we now receive Also there will be interference with GPS systems..

**I-249-011** | **NOISE:** We enjoy the quite in the country. We can hear the birds, insects, and the trees rustle. We do not want to hear the mum of electricity lines.

**PROPOSED WIND PROJECTS:** Three companies are proposing wind projects for the Holden, Kenyon and Wheeling Township areas.

Farm Owner in Holden Township, Goodhue County, Minnesota,



Norma Monroe  
2162 HWY 246 BLVD  
Kenyon MN 55946  
Phone no# 507-789-5497

#### **I-249-005**

Your comment has been noted. Interference with electrical equipment caused by the transmission lines will be addressed with individual landowners if the problem arises.

#### **I-249-006**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to geology and soil resources caused by the transmission lines will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-249-007**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to geology and soil resources caused by the transmission lines will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-249-008**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-249-009**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-249-010**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to water resources caused by the transmission lines will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**I-249-011**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts due to noise will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by July 25, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

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Hampton-Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

**If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:**

☐ Agriculture      ☒ Residential      ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial      ☐ Industrial      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?** AESTHETICS  
VISUAL / RESOURCES

Winona has benefitted from the natural beauty of the surrounding bluffs. And, the community enforces strict restrictions on building along or on the bluffs in order to preserve the aesthetics for all of its citizens.

**I-250-001**

A compromise would be to have the power line travel on the east side, not the west side of the last bluff as it descends the bluff and crosses highway 61.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **I-250-001**

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

1231+03303

Hampton - Rochester - La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Representing (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_ 507 - 454 - 3800



Dr. Thomas P. Mauszycki  
1671 Valley View Dr  
Winona, MN 55987 6221

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

Thomas E. Mauszycki  
1671 Valley View Drive  
Winona, Minnesota 55987-6221

507 - 4354 -3800

tmauszycki@charter.net

June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Public Scoping Meeting For An Environmental Impact Statement  
CAPX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-KV Transmission Line Project

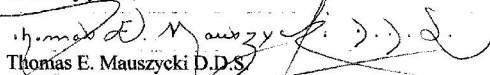
To the CAPX2020 Administrative Body:

I oppose the development of the **CAPX2020 Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-KV Transmission Line Project** through the proposed Winona corridor which will cross the Mississippi River.

Negative Impacts include:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>I-250-002</b> | 1) Environmental issues associated with the increased electromagnetic forces along the route of the proposed Winona corridor. The environmental issues include plant and wildlife species.  |
| <b>I-250-003</b> | 2) Health issues associated with the increased electromagnetic forces along the route of the proposed Winona corridor.  |
| <b>I-250-004</b> | 3) Impact on residential development along the proposed Winona corridor.<br>4) Impact on manufacturing development along the proposed Winona Corridor; and, the concurrent decrease in manufacturing positions.<br>5) Tourism will experience the negative aspect as related to the natural beauty of this area; including the bluff lands. |

Sincerely yours,

  
Thomas E. Mauszycki D.D.S.

#### **I-250-002**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife and health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-250-003**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

#### **I-250-004**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to social and economic resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Mr. Scott Ek

Office of Energy Security and Energy Facility Planning  
85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

July 15th, 2009

Cc: Ms. Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA, Rural Utilities Service  
1400 Independence Avenue S.W. Stop 1571  
Washington DC 20250-1571

Dear Sirs -

This letter is being written in objection to the proposed reroute / or use of the alternate route published recently for the CapX2020 project. As it understood, the reroute of the CapX2020 Brooking to Hampton line will bring the 200 foot towers within 1/2 mile barrier of Sky Harbor Airport (1MN8) located in Webster MN. This private/public airport houses over 70 registered aircraft and operates as one of Minnesota largest in terms of aircraft on field aircraft.

The proposed alternate route places these towers Directly into the Published Airport Traffic Pattern of the states largest residential airport. We as aviators recognize this as both a significant and unacceptable risk to lives by placing these lines in such close proximity to operating aircraft such as Ultra lights, Hot Air Balloons, Light Singles, and other low performance aircraft.

Additionally, it should be noted that per both FAA and Minnesota Regulations, any such development within a the navigable airspace as presented in Federal Aviation Regulations, 14 CFR Part 77 would and does require federal review and review of the existing state and local airspace regulations. As listed in FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5190-4A, Model Zoning Ordinance to Limit Height of Objects Around Airports I believe that the proposed alternate rerouting has not addressed these critical safety issues to navigable airspace around 1MN8, Minnesota Sky Harbor Airport.

It is the purpose of this letter to convey both the danger and the hazard to navigation that these towers would impose upon one of the states largest aircraft bases. On a personal basis, I do not believe this to be in Webster, MN, Rice County, or it's residence best interest and would like to add my official objection to this project.

Respectfully Submitted



Sky Harbor Airport  
Webster, MN 55088

## I-251-001

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

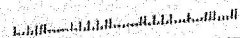
Tom Johnson  
4219 Cass Ave  
Webster, MN 55088

SAINT PAUL MN 550  
21 JUL 2009 PM 2 1



Ms. Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA, Rural Utilities Service  
1400 Independence Ave SW Stop 1571  
Washington DC 20250-1571

20250-1571



Mr. Scott EK

Subject: CAPX 2020

I am a Dairy Farmer on your Alternate Route for this new power line. My Son and I farm 500+ Acres and milk 120 Cows & ~~the~~ the Bams and Dairy Cows are located North of the proposed 57th St route, almost 1/2 mile, in Webster Township. This route was bad enough but now I understand the route is changed to go North on Elmore Ave & then East on 50th St, this route would go on my ~~and~~ Farm's north property line & would only be about 200 yds from my Dairy Bams. This is not good. I have dealt with stray voltage in my dairy bams for years and have spent about \$20,000 to bring it to a tolerable level. We ~~are~~ are also about 75% of our way thru for making plans, getting Bids, getting ~~the~~ estimates etc for about a \$600,000 improvement for our Dairy but this will not happen with a large power line so close to ~~the~~ Bams. Power lines and Dairy Cattle do not mix. I object strongly to this route (50th St) in Webster, mn.

Larry Coffing  
Coffing Farms  
4920 W 50th  
Webster, mn 55088

#### I-252-001

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.



**Cleary Lake Veterinary Hospital**

July 21, 2009

Stephanie Strength  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
USDA, Rural Utilities Service  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Stop 1571  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

Re: CapX2020

Dear Ms. Strength,

I wish to state my strong opposition to the proposed CapX2020 transmission lines proposed on 50<sup>th</sup> Street West and 57<sup>th</sup> Street West in Webster, Minnesota. This line will run next to my property, where I have over \$100,000 worth of top show horses and breeding stock on my farm. I raise several foals per year and believe the power line will be a danger to my horses. In addition, the high voltage lines with their magnetic fields of constant humming and cracking from the overhead transmission will devalue my property. Although, on a map it may look like the proposed line is running by vacant fields, it is not because, as stated above, I have top show horses and breeding stock in those fields, and the proposed lines will be detrimental to them.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this matter, and I ask that you find an alternate route that will have less impact on my property.

Sincerely,

Kathryn M. Ott, D.V.M.

**Your Horse's Life is Our Life's Work!**

**I-253-001**

This federal scoping process is specific to only the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345-kV project. As such, we have forwarded your comments to the project team dealing with the project with which you have raised concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

**Kessler, Ellen**

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**From:** Lilley, Bliss  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 09, 2009 8:48 AM  
**To:** Low, Tara; Collins, Carly; Myers, Stephanie; Hillstrom, Thomas G; cat@dairynet.com  
**Subject:** Fwd: Documents re CapX2020

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Sent from my iphone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC" <[Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov)>  
**Date:** June 9, 2009 7:22:07 AM MDT  
**To:** "Lilley, Bliss" <[Bliss.Lilley@aecom.com](mailto:Bliss.Lilley@aecom.com)>  
**Cc:** <[cat@dairynet.com](mailto:cat@dairynet.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Documents re CapX2020

[Do you have this info?](#)

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**From:** [CQuster@winona.edu](mailto:CQuster@winona.edu) [<mailto:CQuster@winona.edu>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 09, 2009 8:45 AM  
**To:** Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC  
**Subject:** Documents re CapX2020

Hello Stephanie. I left a voice mail message regarding the following. I have received information that you can provide the Alternative Evaluation Study and/or the Macro Corridor Study for the CAPX2020 project.

I would like a copy of the document(s) that detail the follow:

- I-254-001** | The number of households in MN and WI that will benefit from the project
- 2) The costs of all proposed route option.

I would appreciate receiving the document(s) as soon as possible. Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

*Cristeen Custer*

**I-254-001**

Your comment has been noted. Benefits of the proposed project will be discussed and evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which will be available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications

Winona State University

507.457.2569

[www.winona.edu](http://www.winona.edu)

**Kessler, Ellen**

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**From:** Lilley, Bliss  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2009 3:45 PM  
**To:** Collins, Carly  
**Subject:** Fwd: CapX2020

Sent from my iphone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Schultz, Dawn R" <[dawn.schultz@xcelenergy.com](mailto:dawn.schultz@xcelenergy.com)>  
**Date:** July 23, 2009 9:09:03 AM PDT  
**To:** Dean Regnier <[dregnier@us.ibm.com](mailto:dregnier@us.ibm.com)>  
**Cc:** "Lilley, Bliss" <[Bliss.Lilley@aecocom.com](mailto:Bliss.Lilley@aecocom.com)>, "[stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)" <[stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)>, "[baregnier@hotmail.com](mailto:baregnier@hotmail.com)" <[baregnier@hotmail.com](mailto:baregnier@hotmail.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: CapX2020

Dean,

**I-255-001**

Thank you for the information. I've asked our mapping person to make sure your home is recorded on our maps.

Dawn

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dean Regnier [<mailto:dregnier@us.ibm.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2009 10:25 AM  
**To:** Schultz, Dawn R  
**Cc:** Lilley, Bliss; [stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov); [baregnier@hotmail.com](mailto:baregnier@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Re: CapX2020

Dawn, Stephanie,

Thank you for your response...see our input below...

(Embedded image moved to file: pic17495.jpg)

Dean Regnier  
507-843-4381 (Home)  
507-253-2257 (work)  
EMAIL [dregnier@us.ibm.com](mailto:dregnier@us.ibm.com)

**I-255-001**

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to residential land use will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments will be solicited after its publication.

"Schultz, Dawn R"

<[dawn.schultz@xce](mailto:dawn.schultz@xce)

[lenergy.com](mailto:dawn.schultz@xce)>

To

Dean Regnier/Rochester/IBM@IBMUS

07/22/2009 09:45

cc

AM

"Lilley, Bliss"

<[Bliss.Lilley@aecom.com](mailto:Bliss.Lilley@aecom.com)>,

"[stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)"

<[stephanie.strength@usda.gov](mailto:stephanie.strength@usda.gov)>

Subject

CapX2020

Dear Mr. Regnier,

Thank you for your contact regarding the CapX2020 Hampton - Rochester - La Crosse project. Your e-mail came to me, and I can help you with your questions/concerns. We certainly want to get your house on our maps. If you would provide me with your specific location, I'll pass it on to our mapping person. I'll also make sure we've got your address on our mailing list.

As for meetings, there will be more meetings in the future. Our next step is to file a Route Permit application with the Minnesota Public Service Commission (PUC). That will likely happen this fall. After that takes place, the PUC will hold meetings to gather feedback on the routes. In addition, the USDA, Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is currently gathering feedback to be used to form the scope for their federal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The contact at the RUS is Stephanie Strength, who is cc'd on this e-mail. She can also be contacted at 202-720-0468. We encourage you to provide any comments/concerns/suggestions regarding routing to her for the EIS. Please note that the last date to provide comments for the federal EIS is July 25. More information on this can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ccs/eis.htm>, then click Dairyland Power Cooperative, Inc.

Thanks again.

Dawn Schultz  
Technician, Siting & Land Rights - North Xcel Energy CapX2020  
800-238-7968

From: Dean Regnier - [dregnier@us.ibm.com](mailto:dregnier@us.ibm.com)

Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2009 16:25:54 -0500

To: [lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com](mailto:lacrosseinfo@capx2020.com)

Subject: Hampton-Rochester-laCross transmission line project

To: Tom Hillstrom (Project lead),

**I-255-001**

Are you the right contact for public input for this project? I just found out this transmission line "preliminary route", runs about 1000 feet from my house (which is located in Mazeppa Township Section 16)..... I have a 1/2 mile driveway and appears my house was not or is not on the map.... Also: are there any more public meetings on this subject?

Thanks....

Dean Regnier